

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. 25X1A several members of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Colombia (PCG) and of the Tequendama Regional Committee met in Viota to study the position of the Party nationally, in view of the recent change in government.
2. With respect to the matter of giving up arms, it was decided that in the areas where the Communists are in command, or have influence, there would be no unconditional surrender of arms. In southern Tolima, where the Communists have considerable control, it was agreed that some men would be demobilized and ordered to return to their work. In the Viota area there will be no change in the present status; that is, the self-defense units will remain organized and armed.
3. Instructions have been sent to several departments of the country asking that all arms be retained, but that there be a partial demobilization. Each situation must be handled in the manner which will best guarantee "security for the future." It was also suggested that meetings be arranged with guerrilla chiefs in different areas, with a view toward determining a common line of action.
4. In considering the internal affairs of the Party, it was agreed that all secretaries-general and secretaries of organization of departments, regions, and municipalities should be aroused to take advantage of the present respite. Efforts should be made to reorganize the Party direction and cell activities, and to seek the unity of labor groups on a national scale. However, the illegal methods which are being put into practice should not be forgotten, but should be combined with legal activities suitable to each locality.
5. In the field of propaganda, it was agreed that better organization is needed, not only with respect to illegal production means but in the matter of distribution. Contacts should be established in factories and offices in the cities, in the various residential districts, and at farms and towns in the rural areas.

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Instructions to this effect are being sent to all propaganda secretaries throughout the country. Local committees are also being requested to set up study circles and issue pamphlets designed to improve the political education of Party members. A national financial campaign will be inaugurated to reorganize the National Training School. It is planned to bring in new teachers, change the quality of the theoretical courses, and make the courses longer and more intensive. The Communist leaders hope to start a new course on 15 July which will last for six months.

6. Immediately after the fall of Laureano GOMEZ the PCC issued a manifesto stating that the events had largely resulted from the resistance of the masses to the dictatorship in the form of clandestine propaganda and guerrilla activities. It is pointed out that President ROJAS has stated that he will continue the foreign policy of the previous regime. In this connection, the PCC continues to insist that the people should seek the withdrawal of Colombia from the camp of the aggressors. "Only the unity of action of the laboring class, the alliance of the workers and the farmers, and a wide Frente Democratico will constitute an effective guarantee for the people."
7. This manifesto did not satisfy the majority of the members of the PCC. However, the Party leaders have taken the position that at the present moment they cannot assume a stand against the promises of the new government, nor can they hurry to applaud. The PCC should take advantage of all legal means to increase the scope of its activities and reorganize the sectional committees. With this purpose in mind, representatives of the PCC and the Union of Communist Youth of Colombia (UJCC) will be sent to several parts of the country.

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